



Elections and Warfare

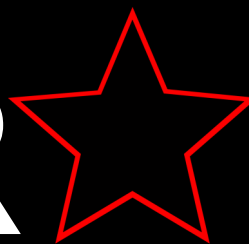


A new (A) Centre



No Sea Border - No Land Border

BLACK STAR



Education Workers



On Strike!

Thousands of classroom assistants, drivers, bus escorts, catering staff, cleaning staff, admin workers, building supervisors and technicians took strike action on the 20th, 21st and 22nd of May with picket lines appearing outside schools and Education Authority premises across the North. Further strike action is planned on the 3rd and 4th of June.

GMB (who were on strike a day less than other unions), NIPSA, UNISON and UNITE members are fighting for the full implementation of the education pay and grading review. They have vowed 'not to be treated like pawns' by the Stormont Assembly. The need for a pay and grading review was acknowledged by the Education Authority back in 2018. Of course no money has been made available by our political 'elite' to pay for it so strike action is the only way to ensure they take notice and give us what we demand and more than deserve. Indeed, our demands most moderate are - we only want to be able to pay the bills!

Perhaps its time we reconsidered and put all of these leeches, politicians, profit gouging companies and bosses, out of a job and ran education, and every other useful industry, ourselves - on the basis of need not profit?

Belfast (A) Centre Opens

May Day 2024 brings memories of past struggles to our present and of the interconnected nature of our global comradeship beyond the borders of capital and nationalism, from the streets of Chicago to the back alleys of Belfast. The A Centre is back in Belfast after many years' absence and anarchism on this island is in good shape for the struggles to come.

We have new members north and south, looking at creating new Local groups to build a genuine working class alternative to capitalism and the crap that passes for democracy that goes along with it. Why not join us?



The Threat of War and Elections



Hot on the heels of his sodden UK election announcement Rishi Sunak has declared that on re-election the Tories will bring in national service for 18 year olds!

Beyond some local concerns around implementation in the wee North (People claiming it should be voluntary here when the voluntary version already exists for teenagers in the form of airforce, naval and army cadets) what the fuck is actually going on?

Perhaps this is simply a calculated handing over the reins to the other major capitalist party in Westminster? Perhaps it is hinting at something more serious on the horizon.

With ICC warrants issued against Netanyahu and Hamas leaders, threats of escalation to a regional

war beyond the relentless genocide there is also a direct threat towards the UK and other NATO allies coming from Russia as that state ramps up its military action against Ukraine.

While the USA may have publicly criticised the behaviour of some Israeli military units, it has just voted another \$26 billion in military aid to Israel.

The USA has also accepted a \$61 billion military aid package for Ukraine and another \$8 billion for Southeast Asian allies. This aid for Taiwan has increased tensions with China and heightens the possibility of ever more widespread warfare.

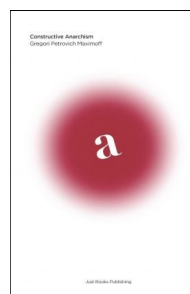
As global capitalism and clashing imperialist ambitions push us deeper and deeper into barbarism we are still being sold the lie that an election can save us.

Nothing short of international working class solidarity, anti-militarism and social revolution can get us out of the disaster created around us by Capital and its global lackeys.

Just Books Publishing



Just Books Publishing, set up by the Just Books Collective, has so far published its first two titles.



The first is a reprint of Gregori Maximoff's *Constructive Anarchism*, to mark the 100th year of existence of the International Workers Association (IWA) the Anarcho-Syndicalist

international founded in Berlin in 1922.

isbn 9781739723705

£7.99



The second title, now with a new cover, is Nick Heath's *The Idea*.

Anarchist Communism: Past, Present and Future - a welcome and new comprehensive work on anarchist communism,

this book seeks to rehabilitate the current of anarchist-communism. To make it better known and understood.

...a good substantial book, and much needed. Lucidly written, it provides a rich brew of engaging discussions of the 'Idea' (anarchist communism as a political philosophy), interesting vignettes of many individual anarchists, and a great historical account of the many anarchist communist organisations over the past 150 years...

(Brian Morris on *The Idea*)

isbn 9781739723712

£15.00

Available from:

<https://organiseanarchistsireland.com/shop/>

No Irish Sea Border - No Irish Land Border!



Rishi's despicable Rwanda Plan has been stopped by a combination of direct action, legal challenges and a tricky post-Brexit land border that just keeps jamming up the works. 'Postponed' pending the outcome of an election that should see Tweedledee step into Tweedledum's shoes at Westminster. While the Starmer Labour Party have vowed to scrap the Rwanda Plan he has declared 'if you want fewer immigrants vote Labour' promising to 'stop the boats getting in'.

With the dog whistle fascist politics making itself felt south of the border looking likely to make its mainstream breakthrough any day now recent news had focused on a 'debate' around asylum seekers sneaking over the border from the North. Before it was 'suspended' pending the outcome of the 4th July UK election a 'flood' of immigrants escaping the possibility of deportation to Rwanda prompted the main parties to chew over the traditional nationalist tropes about perfidious Albion - as a means to make palatable racist rhetoric on migration.

Thereby, an opposition to Borders across bourgeois Irish political parties from left to right in the post-Brexit period is now rapidly reversing towards the territory marked out by those border-loving British nationalists represented by wee Jamie, Jim Allister and their allies in Reform UK. Nationalists in both jurisdictions united in seeking to send back the poor bastards who have found themselves in the maw of an unfeeling and xenophobic gang of Tory bigots in Westminster.

Jamie, Jim, Reform UK and the UUP and DUP all joined in the chorus of 'concerns' but their specific twist was that the wee north would become a haven for those seeking to escape deportation. The usual poison patriotic, nationalist and outright racist rhetoric being repeated across the board.

Lets remember of course, that when we cry 'No Borders!' there are few even on the so-called progressive left, who actually believe that.

Shout it louder!

No Borders! No States!

Meanwhile... in Ballymena, BearCat spot



Observant readers might recognise the big fuck-off armoured vehicle that drove through Ballymena the other day. The cash-strapped PSNI has managed to fork out about half a million dollars to buy two 'BearCat' trucks from the US. These 'hostage rescue' vehicles appeared recently on the telly as NYPD cops used it to storm (or walk slowly up a ladder towards), a campus building of Columbia University occupied by students protesting the Gaza genocide. What or why the fuck our cops have bought these monstrosities for 'peacetime' Northern Ireland isn't clear, but it's unlikely to be deployed in Ballymena anytime soon though a guy in Antrim got his ear bitten off the other day. Maybe they're planning to lease it out to the Gardaí in the event of a fascist siege on Leinster House!

Get Involved: Help Build A Working Class Alternative.



Organise! is an anarcho-syndicalist group in Ireland which is affiliated to the International Worker's Association as 'friends of' section. We take inspiration from the self directed struggles of working-class people, and particularly the history and tradition of struggle epitomised by the IWA - the anarcho-syndicalist international. Our history goes back to the original formation of Organise! by the Ballymena and Antrim Anarchist Groups in 1985. We are a small, but growing, group of ordinary working class people who are fed up with being fucked about by the profit system, fed up with seeing our communities and workplaces torn apart by racism, patriarchy, nationalism and sectarianism, and sick of a greedy few getting rich off everyone else's backs.

We are actively working to promote solidarity in opposition to capitalism, the state, patriarchy and all other forms of oppression and hierarchy. The way we organise reflects the free society we want to create: one based on voluntary association, democratic participation and self-management.

Our members are workers, claimants, students, migrants, unemployed and other working-class people committed to building a libertarian communist union movement actively opposed to all forms of oppression and exploitation.

We want to improve everyday conditions for ourselves and other working class people, but we also struggle for the revolutionary transformation that can create a free and equal society, one based on mutual aid and co-operation. Sound crazy? Maybe it does, but in an era in which it is easier to imagine the end of the world than the end of capitalism the continuation of the present system is even crazier...



The current system isn't working – ill-health, stress and overwork affect more and more people while others are flung on the dole; for increasing amounts of workers it is precarity, zero hours contracts and the stress of being unable to plan or budget our lives; we live in a world of plentiful resources yet millions starve; some people make vast fortunes just because they own companies, land, property or natural resources, but those of us who create the wealth, work the land and build the properties are left struggling to survive; politicians tell us there's no money – not for wages, benefits or local amenities, but there's always plenty for war; both locally and globally the gap between the richest and the poorest sections of society has never been so great; instead of a war on poverty they've got a war on 'benefit fraud', while the same system that creates war, poverty and environmental destruction stigmatises, imprisons and deports the resultant refugees.

We don't think these things are inevitable or coincidental, we think they are related to capitalism – an economic system defined by wage slavery and the accumulation of profit out of other people's work. So we support all workers against their bosses in demanding higher wages and better conditions. We try to intervene practically to support workers engaged in disputes and are also active in our own workplaces and communities. Not only against exploitation but against the multiple oppressions faced by members of the working class in all our diversity.

But it's not just a question of trying to struggle by in a world of exploitation and oppression; we look to a future where workers control production and society in their own interests. And unlike some people who claim to oppose capitalism, we don't want to be a new set of leaders and we refuse to be led by anyone else. We advocate direct democracy in the workplace and through the commune in our communities – working in federation to ensure that the needs of all are met and that no-one is ever again in a position to oppress or exploit another human being.

If you are interested in these ideas, we'd encourage you to explore our website and consider getting involved.

We currently have members in Belfast, Cork, Derry, Lisburn, Newtownabbey and Portadown and are building the organisation on the basis of active involvement and participation. We aren't interested in meaningless 'paper' membership so you can't join by filling in an online form and bunging us a few quid.

To talk to us about joining get the ball rolling, check out our website at <https://organiseanarchistsireland.com> and send an email to:

organiseasi@gmail.com

